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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 26 February 1962

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2. [Redacted] JSW) Carl Marcy, Senate Foreign Relations, telephoned inquiring about the Powers situation. He mentioned again that a letter had been forwarded by the Acting Chairman to State for appropriate information avoiding specifying who should furnish the information or whether it should be in a written form or whether Powers should be brought before the Committee. He said there was considerable pressure on this matter and that people were calling in on it and in substance they wanted to wind up their hearings on the U-2 matter. I advised that we still were not in a position to begin talking about this in a firm fashion but that certainly we were aware of their desire for information and would do what we could to assist them. I told Mr. Marcy I would call him as soon as I was able to be more specific.

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Rommel informed me that at Friday's meeting in the Bureau, representatives of the National Science Foundation, USIA and State Department registered their opposition to this section. NSF opposes it because it would limit the flow of technical information from the Soviet Union. USIA and the State Department oppose it because they feel it would adversely effect reciprocal arrangements with the Soviet Union which permit us to send to Russia such things as the magazine AMERICA and would under-cut the position which we have taken that ours is a free and open society. Rommel indicated that there was going to be some difficulty in connection with this bill since the Post Office Department was anxious to get a postal rate bill through. Agency views are being coordinated through Mr. Harold Reis, in the Department of Justice.

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5. [REDACTED] - GLC) Christine Gill, in the Legislative Liaison office of USIA, called and asked if we had a copy of Secretary McNamara's unclassified statement before the Senate Armed Services Committee on 19 January 1962. I advised Miss Gill that we had the Secretary's statement before House Armed Services but not before the Senate Committee and suggested she request this item from the Department of Defense.

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I mentioned Mr. Walter's remarks on the floor of the House to the effect that Francis Gary Powers was not a spy and that it was incorrect for the press to put Abel and Powers in the same category. I told Besterman we had been most interested and impressed by the Chairman's remarks. In the course of the conversation, I learned that Mr. Walter's speech on this occasion had been prepared by Besterman who felt very strongly on this subject.

Besterman also indicated he has known Mr. Helms for many years and understood that he had been appointed to Mr. Bissell's position and that he was considering sending Helms a congratulatory note.

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7. ( [redacted] - GLC) Talked with Dr. Sid Gottlieb, TSD, concerning my conversation with George Murphy, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy staff. (See Journal 23 February 1962) On Gottlieb's advice I informed Murphy that if the scientist concerned was a [redacted]

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[redacted] our people were in touch with him and he should pursue his interest through that channel. If the scientist was someone else, it was suggested that he submit written data on his device for review. Murphy felt this was a reasonable solution and will take the matter with [redacted] on this basis.

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